

Macalester-Groveland Community Council
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 17, 2011 – 7:00 PM

Edgecumbe Recreation Center – 320 South Griggs Street, Saint Paul, MN 55105

Members in attendance: Gena Berglund, Mary Davis, Michelle Crain, Johanna Anderson, Craig Skone, Kellie Connor, Lauren Anderson (staff)

Meeting called to order: 7:03 pm

Approval of January 2011 Minutes: Motion to approve was seconded and passed.

2011 Mac Grove Moves

- **Sponsor Update:** Over 20 donation solicitations were sent out and many businesses have already responded, several of which are donating multiple prizes. Pizza Luce has extended an offer of “buy 1 get 1” for MGM participants – we’ll need to decide how participants can redeem this offer. One option would be for participants to show their MGM log to the server.
- **Volunteers to follow up with remaining businesses:** Committee members volunteered to follow up with businesses that have yet to respond to the mailed solicitation.
- **Other:** Donor labels for the 2011 MGM brochures will be finalized once all donations are received. Mary provided the labels, Lauren will print them, and Melanie’s students will place them on the brochures. Plan to have MGM brochures at the Home Improvement Fair.

Community Garden Workgroup

Lauren is interested in starting a Community Garden Workgroup and would like to generate more interest from the community. One major barrier to establishing a community garden is finding a space, but the search for space may be easier with more people involved. Committee members suggested that taking a broader approach might be easier – i.e. yards to gardens. The committee approved a motion for Lauren to proceed with soliciting interest in creating a community garden workgroup. Lauren will prepare an ad for the Illuminator to solicit neighborhood interest in joining a Community Garden Workgroup (commitment of ~5 hours per month).

Upcoming Eco-Forums

- **Energy Efficiency:** February 24th at Macalester; Committee should continue to promote
- **Composting:** March 3rd at Edgecumbe; Lauren has not received many RSVPs yet so the committee can help by actively promoting the event, placing flyers in the neighborhood, etc. Johanna and Michelle volunteered to help with eco-forum set up and greeting of attendees.

- **Native/rain gardening:** April 26th and May 3rd at Edgcumbe; The workshop will be presented by Ramsey Conservation District. The committee will need to provide supplies (vellum paper, colored pencils, erasers – Michelle may have vellum paper, Gena may have colored pencils). We could charge a nominal fee for the workshop series but it would be nice to keep the event free. Participation will be capped at 20. This event should be promoted at the Home Improvement Fair.

Eureka Contract

Lauren and Gena gave the committee an update on the MGCC contract with Eureka. Both MGCC and Eureka agreed to end the contract early, with a new estimated end date of April 2011. The final contract tasks include the Composting Eco-Forum, a document on the final year of the contract, and a wrap up discussion.

Meeting adjourned: 7:51 pm